

JWOD products from the House-Senate Stationary stores not only because of their quality and value, but also because of the socio-economic benefits that can come from supporting the program. By purchasing these products and using these services we are enabling more disabled Americans to have the opportunity to become taxpayers. Today in Runnemede, New Jersey, 34 blind Americans are employed under the JWOD Program and are producing high quality items or services for us, the federal customer.

The JWOD Program is administered by the Presidentially-appointed Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, with much assistance from National Industries for the Blind (NIB) and NISH, which serves people with a wide range of disabilities. More than 650 local nonprofit agencies associated with NIB and NISH employ people who are blind or disabled to produce the quality products and offer the services authorized for sale to the federal government under the JWOD Program.

The JWOD Program is a great illustration of a successful partnership that has the ability to continuously grow with the changing procurement environment within the federal government.

The Javits-Wagner-O'Day Program works for America.

#### RECOGNIZING JOHN CLEARY FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 29, 2003*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize John Cleary, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 249, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

John has been very active with his troop, participating in such scout activities as Camp Bartle and as a counselor at Camp Naish. Over the five years he has been involved in Scouting, he has earned 28 merit badges. Additionally, John has held numerous leadership positions, serving as patrol leader, senior patrol leader, quartermaster and chaplain aide. John also has been honored for his numerous Scouting achievements with such awards as the Arrow of Light Award, Foxman in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, Brave in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and the Order of the Arrow Award.

For his Eagle Scout project, John planned and coordinated the replacement of playground equipment in his neighborhood park in Farley, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending John Cleary for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

#### HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 11, 2003*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6) to enhance energy conservation and research and development, to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes:

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concerns with H.R. 6, "The Energy Policy Act of 2003," in particular, provisions to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) for drilling.

I support a strong, comprehensive national energy policy that promotes conservation, alternative fuels, and technologies, in conjunction with maintaining sound environmental practices. One thing that every Member of this Congress agrees on is that our nation needs an energy plan that has a strong balance between energy production and energy efficiency. I was pleased to hear President Bush once again lead the energy section of his State of the Union address with support for energy efficiency, especially his initiative to accelerate research into hydrogen fuel cells. This kind of long-term commitment will help our country shift to more environmentally friendly energy sources. We must maintain proper levels of funding for renewable energy research, so renewable energy can become a greater proportion of our nation's energy supply in the long run.

Although The Energy Policy Act of 2003 contained several conservation measures, including close to \$7 billion for tax credits for the use of alternative fuels and conservation, the proposal also contained an additional \$12 billion in production-related tax incentives to coal, oil, and gas industries. Even so, experts predict the shortage of natural gas supplies will continue suggesting that tax policy alone is not sufficient to address the crisis in natural gas. Therefore, these tax measures combined with the proposal to open ANWR for drilling led me to oppose H.R. 6.

I believe we have a responsibility to preserve and protect our environment. As you know, whether or not to drill for oil in ANWR has long been a controversial subject. I believe there are other ways to ensure the United States has a national energy policy other than disturbing a pristine wildlife refuge. Proponents of drilling for oil in ANWR have not made an adequate case to me, and therefore, I support an amendment to strike the language in H.R. 6 proposing to open ANWR to drilling.

The U.S. Geological Survey reports that there are only 3.2 billion barrels (6 months' supply) of economically recoverable oil in ANWR. In contrast to ANWR's 6 month oil supply, natural gas from Alaska's North Slope would provide a 10 month supply. There is consensus from all sides that this natural gas should be piped to the lower 48 states, but there is disagreement on the location of the pipeline. I support efforts to make a final determination so this pipeline can be built quickly, but safely. Other sources of energy on the North Slope include a 13 month supply in the

North Slope Reserves and a 3 year supply at West Sac.

I know that energy efficiency alone will not be able to meet our country's current energy needs, we must begin to make a stronger commitment to alternative fuels and conservation as ways to improve our environment and boost this Nation's struggling economy. As this debate now moves forward, Congress must seize this opportunity to put these important efforts at the forefront of a comprehensive national energy policy.

I am committed to finding solutions to the energy crisis that strike a proper balance between conservation and production. I am hopeful that The Energy Policy Act of 2003 will represent a balanced, more fiscally responsible proposal when I have the chance to vote on the House-Senate Conference Report on this bill later in the 108th Congress.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 29, 2003*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, April 11, 2003, I was absent due to participation in a previously scheduled conference.

On rollcall votes numbered 142, 143, and 144, I would have voted "yea."

I would have voted to support an amendment by Representative KIND to strike Title II of the Energy Bill (#142). Title II would not only increase oil and gas drilling on sensitive public lands without ensuring environmental protections, but it would also provide royalty relief to these industries. The American public and Federal Treasury need these royalty payments in order to fully fund the Conservation Trust Fund, which pays for many of our nation's parks, refuges, wildlife protections, open space, and contributes to the preservation of our historic and cultural resources.

I would have also voted to support Representative RAHALL's amendment to strike Division C, Title III of the Energy Bill (#143). I oppose these provisions that provide benefits to certain coal companies at the detriment of competition within the coal industry, taxpayers, and the environment.

Finally, I would have voted in support of Representative DINGELL's motion to recommit the Energy Bill (#144). I support Mr. DINGELL's efforts to substitute a hydroelectric energy title that would have offered increased protections for fish and wildlife.

On rollcall vote numbered 145, I would have voted "nay." The statement that I submitted for the RECORD during the debate on the Energy Bill provides an explanation of why I voted against final passage of H.R. 6.

#### TRIBUTE TO WILLIE BELL "MISS HONEY" WALLACE

#### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 29, 2003*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and accomplishments of Mrs. Willie Bell Wallace of